

1. Write in the passive.

1. Peter bought the house

The house was bought by Peter.

2. Mary will bring the wine.

The wine will be brought by Mary.

3. My friends are repairing the car.

The car is being repaired by my friends.

4. Most students speak English in this class.

English is spoken by most students in this class.

5. An elderly couple sheltered her.

She was sheltered by an elderly couple.

6. A policeman helped him.

He was helped by a policeman.

7. She finished her work by nine o'clock.

Her work was finished by nine o'clock.

8. Nobody can repair this broken chair.

This broken chair can't be repaired.

9. They carried him into the hospital.

He was carried into the hospital.

10. Are they typing the letters?

Are the letters being typed?

11. They have not taken the car into the garage.

The car hasn't been taken into the garage.

12. Someone has spilt some milk on the carpet.

Some milk has been spilt on the carpet.

13. Did anyone answer your question?

Was your question answered?

14. They showed me the cathedral.

I was shown the cathedral/The cathedral was shown to me.

15. They told the children to leave the room.

The children were told to leave the room.

16. They allowed her to go to the dining room.

She was allowed to go to the dining room.

17. They didn't tell me the truth.

I wasn't told the truth/The truth wasn't told to me.

18. Someone will give you a new notebook.

You will be given a new notebook/A new notebook will be given to you.

19. Someone is teaching him English.

He is being taught English/English is being taught to him.

20. They had offered me a job.

I had been offered a job/A job had been offered to me.

21. Someone has read her the letter.

She has been read the letter/The letter has been read to her.

22. Nobody has slept in this bed.

This bed hasn't been slept in.

23. They looked after the baby.

The baby was looked after.

24. They have been looking at her for hours.

She has been being looked at for hours.

25. They smiled at the girl as she walked by.

The girl was smiled at as she walked by.

26. People speak well of your friend.

Your friend is well spoken of.

27. We must look for the key.

The key must be looked for.

28. People say that the president will arrive on Monday.

The president is said to arrive on Monday.

29. People think that money is the most important thing in life.

Money is thought to be the most important thing in life.

30. They thought that he was an artist.

He was thought to have been an artist.

31. They think I come from Italy.

I am thought to come from Italy.

32. People feared that the criminals would escape.

The criminals were feared to have escaped.

33. People hope that prices won't go up this year.

Prices are hoped not to go up this year.

34. People generally assume that the USA is the richest country in the world.

The USA is generally assumed to be the richest country in the world.

2. Write in the active:

1. We are taught grammar by Ms Sullivan.

Ms Sullivan teaches us grammar.

2. He was praised by the teacher.

The teacher praised him.

3. The injured were taken to the hospital by the firemen.

The firemen took the injured to the hospital.

4. The town was destroyed by an earthquake.

An earthquake destroyed the town.

5. The teacher was pleased with the boy's work.

The boy's work pleased the teacher.

6. The building was damaged by the fire.

The fire damaged the building.

7. By whom were you taught French?

Who taught you French?

8. You will be given a ticket by the manager.

The manager will give you a ticket.

9. The streets were thronged with spectators.

Spectators thronged the streets.

10. We will be blamed by everyone.

Everyone will blame us.

11. The trees were blown down by the wind.

The wind blew down the trees.

12. The thieves were caught by the police.

The police caught the thieves.

13. The letter was posted by Alice.

Alice posted the letter.

14. We were received by the hostess.

The hostess received us.

15. The snake was killed with a stick.

A stick (was used to kill) killed the snake.

16. The minister was welcomed by the people.

The people welcomed the minister.

17. He was found guilty of murder.

They found him guilty of murder.

18. This house was built by John Mathews in 1991.

John Mathews built this house in 1991.

3. Rewrite the sentences in the passive, making the words in italics the subject of the sentence or clause in which they appear.

1. They gave *the oldest councilor* the freedom of the city.

The oldest councilor was given the freedom of the city.

2. They denied *access to the secret documents* to all but a few.

Access to the secret documents was denied to all but a few.

3. Someone showed *the child* how to use the telephone.

The child was shown how to use the telephone.

4. They declared *him* persona non grata and allowed him only forty-eight hours to leave the country. *He was declared persona non grata and allowed only forty-eight hours to leave the country.*

5. They gave *him* artificial respiration.

He was given artificial respiration.

6. Why didn't they offer him the job?

Why wasn't he offered the job?

7. Didn't they promise *you* a rise in salary at the beginning of the year?

Weren't you promised a rise in the salary at the beginning of the year?

8. Someone left *him* a legacy of 10.000.

He was left a legacy of 10.000.

9. When he looked at the stamps, he found they had sold *him* forgeries.

When he looked at the stamps, he was found to have been sold forgeries.

10. What did they pay *you* for doing the job?

What were you paid for doing the job?

11. Someone should tell *him* never to do that again.

He should be told never to do that again.

12. They asked *you* to meet me here at 11 o'clock, not half past.

You were asked to meet me here at 11 o'clock, not half past.

13. Will someone send *me* the details?

Will I be sent the details?

14. We shall send *you* *the goods* as soon as they are available.

The goods shall be sent to you as soon as they are available.

15. Someone must teach *that boy* a lesson!

That boy must be taught a lesson!

4. Rewrite these sentences in an alternative passive form, beginning your sentences with the words in italics.

1. It is said that *he* is an honest, hard-working man.

He is said to be an honest, hard-working man.

2. It is considered that *this surgeon* is a brilliant practitioner.

This surgeon is considered to be a brilliant practitioner.

3. It is now thought that *some redundancy in the Midlands* is inevitable.

Some redundancy in the Midlands is now thought to be inevitable.

4. It was proved that *the statements he had made* were false.

The statements he had made were proved to have been false.

5. It was understood that *Mr Smith* was willing to meet the British Prime Minister.

Mr Smith was understood to have been willing to meet the British Prime Minister.

6. It is believed that *the Chancellor* is thinking of imposing special taxes to raise extra revenue.

The Chancellor is believed to be thinking of imposing special taxes to raise extra revenue.

7. It is expected that *the electricity supply industry* will be running into surplus capacity by next year. *The electricity supply industry is expected to be running into surplus capacity by next year.*

8. It is reported that *several American motor manufacturers* are planning to set up assembly plants overseas. *Several American motor manufacturers are reported to be planning to set up assembly plants overseas.*

9. It is expected that *the brewers* will raise the price of beer in the near future.

The brewers are expected to raise the price of beer in the near future.

10. It was claimed that *the drug* produced no undesirable side-effects.

The drug was claimed to have produced no undesirable side-effects.

11. It is said that *the police* acted with great restraint, despite provocation.

The police are said to have acted with great restraint, despite provocation.

12. It was alleged that *the Prime Minister* had misled the House.

The Prime Minister was alleged to have misled the House.

13. It is believed that *the Government* has had second thoughts on this problem.

The Government is/are believed to have had second thoughts on this problem.

14. It was believed that *the explosion* had been caused by a mine.

The explosion was believed to have been caused by a mine.

15. It is presumed that *the ship's radio equipment* was put out of the action during the fire.

The ship's radio equipment is presumed to have been put out of the action during the fire.

16. It was later admitted that *the information* had been obtained from unreliable sources.
The information was later admitted to have been obtained from unreliable sources.

5. Rewrite these sentences using *have* or *get*.

1. The mechanic changed the oil in my car.

I had/got the oil in my car changed (by a mechanic).

2. The hairdresser cut my hair in a completely different style.

I had/got my hair cut in a completely different style by the hairdresser.

3. A decorator has repainted our house.

We/I had/got our house repainted by a decorator.

4. A friend of mine, who's an electrician, is going to repair my DVD player next week.

I am going to have/get my DVD player repaired next week by an electrician, who's a friend of mine.

5. My jacket is being cleaned at a specialist cleaner's.

I am having/getting my jacket cleaned at a specialist cleaner's.

6. The town hall has just been rebuilt for the council.

The council has just had/got the town hall rebuilt.

6. More Active to Passive

1. People do not often invite me to parties.

I am not often invited to parties.

2. Careless driving causes many accidents.

Many accidents are caused by careless driving.

3. How do you pronounce this word?

How is this word pronounced?

4. Somebody cleans this room every day.

This room is cleaned every day.

5. They cancelled all flights because of fog.

All flights were cancelled because of the fog.

6. Somebody accused me of stealing money.

I was accused of stealing money.

7. Somebody warned us not to go out alone.

We were warned not to go out alone.

8. We must do something about this.

Something must be done about this/ Something about this must be done.

9. We could hear the music from a long way away.

The music could be heard from a long way away.

10. Somebody should have cleaned the room.

The room should have been cleaned.

11. Somebody is using the computer at the moment.

The computer is being used at the moment.

12. They had postponed the meeting.

The meeting had been postponed.

13. They were building a new ring road around the city.

A new ring road around the city was being built.

14. They have built a new hospital near the airport.

A new hospital near the airport has been built.

15. I don't like people telling me what to do.

I don't like being told what to do.

16. Steve hates people keeping him waiting.

Steve hates being kept waiting.

17. We will give you plenty of time to decide.

You will be given plenty of time to decide.

18. Has anybody shown you the new machine?

Have you been shown the new machine?

19. How much will they pay her for her work?

How much will she be paid for her work?

20. I think they should have offered Tom the job.

I think Tom should have been offered the job.

21. They asked me some difficult questions at the interview.

I was asked some difficult questions at the interview.

22. Nobody told me anything about the change of the meeting.

I was told nothing/I wasn't told anything about the change of the meeting.

23. Everybody expects that the weather will be good tomorrow.

The weather is expected to be good tomorrow.

24. The government report that many people are homeless after the floods.

Many people are reported to be homeless after the floods.

25. They alleged that the man was driving at 110 mph.

The man was alleged to have been driving at 110 mph.

26. They are encouraging young people to continue their studies.

Young people are being encouraged to continue their studies.